

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: ITO

FILED: DECEMBER 12, 2000

FOR: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING DUMMY GATES AND ITS
MANUFACTURING METHOD

DOCKET: NEC 444

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231



PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office Form PTOL-1449, including copies of the prior art references listed therein. This reference is discussed in the specification. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over this reference.

This prior art disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Applicant
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Date of Deposit December 12, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper and the papers listed thereon are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner of Patents, US Patent and Trademark Office, Incoming Mailroom, 1B01 Crystal Plaza 2, 2021 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-3602.

Signature of Person Mailing. _____

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Johanne Hrycuna", written over a horizontal line.

Name of Person Mailing Johanne Hrycuna